

For Immediate Release:

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Contact:

Ryan Duffy, (850) 487-8148

**Statement by Representative Denise Grimsley on the
House Appropriations Committee's Passage of the
2012-13 General Appropriations Act**

Tallahassee, Fla. – State Representative Denise Grimsley (R-Sebring), Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, today released the following statement regarding the committee's passage of for the 2012-13 General Appropriations Act.

"I am pleased the House Appropriations Committee has acted swiftly to pass a balanced, fiscally responsible budget that will not increase the burden of state government on taxpayers.

"After listening to Floridians, the need to prioritize the delivery of services over the purchase of things is clear. As such, the House budget increases PreK-12 education funding by more than \$1 billion. Additionally, like Florida families, government must responsibly plan for the future. This budget strikes the right balance between funding our state's priorities and maintaining the reserves needed to both preserve our bond rating and prepare for any future economic uncertainty.

"I appreciate the hard work of my colleagues' and their commitment to sending a positive message to our business community by finishing our work on time. I look forward to seeing our budget pass the House floor next week."

The House's recommended \$69.2 billion budget for the Fiscal Year 2012-13 consists of general revenue funds totaling \$24.3 billion, state trust funds totaling \$20.4 billion and federal funds totaling \$24.5 billion. The budget increases PreK-12 education funding by over \$1 billion and includes more than \$2.46 billion in reserves.

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